

“WE ENRICH LIVES THROUGH QUALITY PARKS AND PROGRAMS”

MINUTES

City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Board

January 16, 2003

Meeting held at:

City Administration Building
202 “C” Street, 12th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

Mailing address is:

City of San Diego
Park & Recreation Board
202 “C” Street, MS 9B
San Diego, CA 92101

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present

Jim Austin, Chair
Ginny Barnes, Vice Chair
Darlene Gould Davies
Kevin Faulconer (2:16 p.m.)
Norman Greene
Dan Mazzella
Doug Perry
Olivia Puentes-Reynolds

Members Absent

Faith Bautista
Bob Otilie
Olivia Puentes-Reynolds
Robert Robinson

Staff Present

Bill Deloatch
June Dudas
Ted Medina
Mike Morrow
Sally Pearson
April Pendera
Clark Ritter
Deborah Sharpe

Mr. Otilie and Ms. Bautista gave notice that they would not be able to attend today’s meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Austin called the meeting to order at 2:12 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Mazzella/Mr. Perry

The Minutes of November 21, 2002 were unanimously approved by the Board .

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Jim Peugh, representing the San Diego Audubon Society, gave public comment on the NTC Park Environmental Impact Report (EIR). He felt that the report was inconclusive and that it did not give decision makers enough information to analyze the project adequately. He made several suggestions on what information should be included to improve the report. Mr. Peugh agreed to provide his specific comments in writing to the Board for referral to staff.

COMMENTS OR ADDITIONS

None.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

_____ Mr. Austin welcomed the Board members back and talked briefly about the busy year ahead.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Oppenheim wished the Board members a Happy New Year and reported on the following:

- The City of San Diego, like other California cities, is facing a major budget crisis. Under budget cuts proposed by Governor Davis, the city could lose \$23 million in motor vehicle license fees in the fiscal year that ends June 30 and an additional \$48 million in the next fiscal year. The Department has already been directed to reduce spending by 3% for this fiscal year, and to prepare for the possibility of an additional 10% in reductions in Fiscal Year 2004. The direct impact of how this will affect the Park & Recreation Department has not yet been determined but every effort will be made to protect service levels to our customers and the community. More information will be provided as it becomes available.
- San Diego Sockers are partnering with the Park and Recreation Department to collaborate on a Park and Recreation Night in March. The department will be provided a limited number of tickets at a reduced rate and for each ticket sold, the department will receive a donation that will go into a special fund to enhance programs and services.
- Park & Recreation received a \$60,000 state grant to fund a draft resource management plan in Tecolote Canyon Natural Park.
- On January 13th, the Southcrest Community Park held a grand re-opening of it's children's playground. New playground equipment and a new play surface was installed.
- A groundbreaking for the new Martin Luther King Senior Center is scheduled for Friday, January 17 at 1:30 p.m.

- City beach crews did an excellent job anticipating and then responding to the high storm tides we had recently. They restored and reinforced the berms throughout the Mission Bay area, moved around tons of recycled sand, and removed kelp that wound up on the beaches. Extra care was given to residential and commercial properties to protect those structures from any storm damage.

FRIENDS OF PARKS REPORT

_____ Ms. Davies reported that the Friends are undertaking a tree planting program with a \$5,000 grant they received from the State of California's ReLeaf Program. It will allow them to plant 65 trees at 9 different sites.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent

_____ A motion was made by Ms. Barnes and seconded by Mr. Faulconer to approve on consent the following action item:

101. Black Mountain Ranch Community Park - General Development Plan

_____ The motion passed unanimously.

Adoption

102. Standardized Designs and Community Review for Comfort Stations

_____ Mr. Darren Greenhalgh, Senior Civil Engineer from the Engineering & Capital Projects Department, Public Buildings and Parks Division, presented a detailed overview of the proposal. The proposed policy is intended to establish a uniform review and approval process for the selection, review, and alteration of designs for neighborhood park comfort stations. It will also enable the City to construct comfort stations in a cost-efficient manner.

Ms. Mary Coakley and Ms. Karen Boger gave public comment in support of the proposal. Ms. Coakley provided hand-outs to the Board members and talked about the research she has done on this subject. Cost and safety issues, as well as efficiency, size of comfort stations, and where sinks should be installed were also discussed.

MOTION MOVED/SECONDED Ms. Barnes/Mr. Perry

It was moved, seconded, and approved by the Board to recommend approval of the council policy for standardized designs and an abbreviated community review process for Park & Recreation facility comfort stations. (Vote: 5-1-1)

INFORMATION ITEMS

201. La Mirada Joint Use Status

_____ Ms. Deborah Sharpe, Project Officer II with the Park Planning Division introduced Mr. Clark Ritter, Project Manager, who provided an update on the La Mirada Elementary School Joint Use project. The project is being funded with grants and matching funds. A ceremonial groundbreaking is scheduled for Tuesday, January 21 with the first phase completion date anticipated to be in the Summer of 2004

202. CEQA Process Overview

_____ Ms. April Penera, Park Planning Deputy Director, and Mr. Larry Monserrate, Assistant Deputy Director, Environmental Analysis Section of the Development Services Department, described the purpose of the California Environmental Quality Act and how it is applied to City of San Diego projects. A hand out was distributed providing more detailed information.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Balboa Park Committee

_____ Mr. Mazzella reported that the City has retained consultants from Jones & Jones to conduct a parking and circulation study of Balboa Park. A retreat is scheduled on February 1 focusing on ways the committee can become more functional and effective. They will also discuss forming subcommittees so that they can better address more of the issues that affect Balboa Park.

Central Area Committee

_____ No report.

City Lakes Committee

_____ No report.

Coastal Area Committee

_____ No meeting.

Design Review Committee

_____ No report.

Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens' Advisory Committee

_____ Meeting tonight. No report.

Mission Bay Park Committee

_____Mr. Faulconer reported that the Committee approved improvements to boat launching facilities in Dana Basin, De Anza Cove, Santa Clara Point and Ski Beach.

Mission Trails Regional Park Citizen's Advisory Committee

_____No report.

Northern Area Committee

_____No meeting.

Southern Area Committee

_____No meeting.

Tecolote Canyon Natural Park

_____No report.

Wetlands Advisory

_____No report.

ADJOURNMENT

_____The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

_____The next scheduled meeting is: **Thursday, February 20, 2003**

City Administration Building
Council Committee Room
202 "C" Street, 12th Floor
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Submitted by,

Ellen Oppenheim
Staff Representative

EO:sp